

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Claims 1-24 (Canceled)

25. (Original) A sleeve-type pipe joint comprising a joint body having a cylindrical projection adapted to be inserted into a pipe to be connected; and a shrinkable member mounted onto an outer surface of said pipe; said shrinkable member comprising a resiliently deformable sleeve portion having a tapered portion on an outer surface, and a high-rigidity ring portion integrally connected to said sleeve portion via a thin portion; the relative movement of said sleeve portion and said ring portion toward each other causing said ring portion to get seated on said sleeve portion with said thin portion cut, whereby said sleeve portion is deformed inward, resulting in the tight connection of the inner surface of said pipe to the outer surface of said cylindrical projection.

26. (Original) The sleeve-type pipe joint according to claim 25, wherein said shrinkable member has at least one portion engageable with said joint body.

27. (Original) The sleeve-type pipe joint according to claim 25, wherein said sleeve portion has a flange portion

28. (Original) The sleeve-type pipe joint according to claim 25, wherein said sleeve portion has at least one longitudinal slit.

29. (Original) A sleeve-type pipe joint comprising a joint body having a cylindrical projection adapted to be inserted into a pipe to be connected; and a shrinkable member mounted onto an outer surface of said pipe; said shrinkable member comprising a resiliently deformable sleeve portion integrally having at least one portion engageable with said joint body, a flange portion and a shrinkable portion having a tapered outer surface in this order, with at least one slit extending longitudinally, and a high-rigidity ring portion integrally connected to a rear end of said sleeve portion via a thin portion; the sliding movement of said ring portion toward said joint body causing said ring portion to get seated on said sleeve portion with said thin portion cut, whereby said sleeve portion is deformed inward, resulting in the tight connection of the inner surface of said pipe to the outer surface of said cylindrical projection.

30. (Original) A sleeve-type pipe joint comprising a joint body having a cylindrical projection adapted to be inserted into a pipe to be connected and a flange portion extending near a root portion of said cylindrical projection; and a shrinkable member mounted onto an outer surface of said pipe; said shrinkable member comprising a resiliently deformable sleeve portion having a tapered outer surface with at least one slit extending longitudinally, and a high-rigidity ring portion integrally connected to a rear end of said sleeve portion via a thin portion; the sliding movement of said ring portion toward said joint body causing said ring portion to get seated on said sleeve portion with said thin portion cut, whereby said sleeve portion is deformed

inward, resulting in the tight connection of the inner surface of said pipe to the outer surface of said cylindrical projection.

31. (Original) A sleeve-type pipe joint comprising a joint body having a cylindrical projection adapted to be inserted into a pipe to be connected; and a shrinkable member mounted onto an outer surface of said pipe; said shrinkable member comprising a high-rigidity ring portion, at least one portion engageable with said joint body, which integrally extends from a front end of said ring portion, and a resiliently deformable sleeve portion integrally connected to a rear end of said ring portion via a thin portion; said sleeve portion comprising a shrinkable portion having a tapered outer surface and a flange portion in this order from the side of said joint body with at least one slit extending longitudinally; the sliding movement of said sleeve portion toward said joint body causing said sleeve portion to enter into a space between said ring portion and said pipe with said thin portion cut, whereby said sleeve portion is deformed inward, resulting in the tight connection of the inner surface of said pipe to the outer surface of said cylindrical projection.

32. (New) The sleeve-type pipe joint according to claim 29, wherein an inner projection of said shrinkable member engages an annular groove of said joint body.